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CHANGE NOTICE		
Notice #	Title	Date Issued
#2025-06-18-01	MEFIRS System Updates	June 18, 2025
Superseded	Released By	System Impacted
N/A	Maine EMS	MEFIRS
Implementation Date	June 18, 2025	
<p>Overview: Symptom Update: "Rhinitis" is being added as a selectable symptom (for Primary Symptom and Other Associated Symptoms) to better track potential measles cases.</p> <p>New Travel Panel: A new, optional "Infectious Diseases" panel is being added to the Assessment section. This allows for the documentation of a patient's recent domestic and international travel to aid in syndromic surveillance. <i>These fields are not required.</i></p> <p>Facility Visibility Rules: Over the next few months new rules will be placed on the facilities visible to select from, depending on the type of service requested field.</p>		

Subject: MEFIRS System Updates

This notice is to inform all MEFIRS users of upcoming changes to the electronic patient care report (ePCR). These changes are being implemented to improve the state's ability to monitor and respond to potential infectious disease occurrences, such as measles and to simplify the patient care report for EMS clinicians.

1. Addition of "Rhinitis" to Symptom Lists

To improve our ability to monitor occurrences and exposures to measles within the State of Maine, we will be enabling "Rhinitis" as a selectable option.

This option will be added to the following data elements:

- **eSituation.09 (Primary Symptom)**
- **eSituation.10 (Other Associated Symptoms)**

2. Addition of "Infectious Diseases" Travel Panel

To further assist with syndromic surveillance, a new "Infectious Diseases" panel will be enabled within the Assessment section of the ePCR. This panel is designed to capture recent travel information for patients suspected of having an infectious disease.

For the purposes of this panel, "recent travel" can be considered travel within thirty (30) days prior to the patient's symptom onset.

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The following new fields will be available:

- **Recent Travel**
 - **Definition:** Prior to symptom onset, did the patient travel outside their community?
 - **Field Type:** Single Select
 - **Values:** Yes, No, Unknown
 - **Pertinent Negatives:** Refused, Unable to Complete, Unresponsive
- A. **Recent International Travel**
 - **Definition:** Document all the countries (outside the US) the patient has traveled to prior to symptom onset.
 - **Field Type:** Multi-Select
 - **Values:** List of Countries
 - **Pertinent Negatives:** Refused, Unable to Complete, Unresponsive
- B. **Recent Domestic Travel**
 - **Definition:** Document all the states the patient has traveled to prior to symptom onset.
 - **Field Type:** Multi-Select
 - **Values:** List of States
 - **Pertinent Negatives:** Refused, Unable to Complete, Unresponsive

Implementation Note:

At this time, there will be no validation associated with these new fields, making them optional. However, we strongly recommend that EMS clinicians consider using this panel when encountering patients suspected of exposure to, or experiencing symptoms consistent with, an infectious disease.

3. Visibility rules on facilities

To simplify the patient care reporting process visibility rules will be placed on the facilities that users may select from. The rules will be based on fields within the report, such as Type of Service Requested (eResponse.05). These rules will be implemented over the next several months. Two examples of how this will be implemented:

- The destination facilities clinicians can select from will be limited to only Hospitals and Free-Standing Emergency Rooms for the Type of Services Requested Emergency Response Primary Response Area (2205001), Emergency Response Intercept (2205003), Emergency Response Mutual Aid (2205009), and Hospital to Hospital Transfer (2205005)
- The originating facilities clinicians can select from will be limited to only Hospitals for the Type of Service Requested Hospital to Hospital Transfer (2205005)

If you have any questions regarding these changes, please contact Darren Davis Darren.w.davis@maine.gov for further clarification.